



News in brief

Commanders call, run set

A 509th Bomb Wing commander's call and warrior run begins at 7:15 a.m. March 25 at the S-6 alert facility. The warrior run will be completed by 9 a.m. Refreshments will be provided by the 509th Services Squadron.

Blood drive scheduled

The Whiteman Officers' Spouses' Club is sponsoring a blood drive 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday-March 25 at the community center. Free T-shirts and refreshments will be provided. For more details or to schedule an appointment, e-mail Michelle Hunt at kevinandmichelle@charter.net.

Finance announces closure

The 509th Comptroller Squadron closes for an official function at 12:30 p.m. March 25. For more details, call Master Sgt. Bain Walling, 509th CPTS, at 687-4736.

Predatory lending hearing set

A public hearing to discuss predatory lending practices begins at 1:30 p.m. March 29, at the Kansas City Armory. The event is sponsored by the offices of Congressmen Graves and Skelton.

Airman who believe they may have experienced an unethical loan transaction must contact the base legal office for guidance about participating in this hearing. Attendees must be in a pass or leave status and in civilian attire. For more information, call Capt. Shelly Hilliker or Steven Smart at 687-6809.

AFAF donation drive ending

Air Force members helping each other is what the Air Force Assistance Fund relies on. The donation drive ends March 29.

The 32nd annual AFAF campaign is intended to raise money for charitable organizations that benefit active-duty, Reserve, Guard and retired members and their families, including surviving spouses and their families. Charities receive 100 percent of the funds donated.

Contact your unit AFAF representatives to contribute. For a complete listing of unit representatives, visit <http://www.whiteman.af.mil/news/2005Spirit/11Feb05Spirit.pdf> and go to Page 4.

MXG hosts annual banquet

The annual Maintenance Professional of the Year Awards banquet begins at 5:30 p.m. April 8 at Mission's End. The speaker is Maj. Gen. Elizabeth Harrell, Air Combat Command director of maintenance and logistics.

The meal is barbecued brisket. The cost is \$8.25 for members and \$10.25 for nonmembers. Military dress is battle dress uniform and civilian dress is business casual. To R.S.V.P., call 687-1211 by April 1.



Courtesy photo

Welcome home

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Tech. Sgt. Richard Barker is greeted by his wife, Cheryl, 9-month-old daughter, Lydia, and son, Quinton, at the Kansas City International Airport March 11. Sergeant Barker and 12 other 509th Logistics

Readiness Squadron Vehicle Operations Flight members returned home after an eight-month deployment to Iraq. Of those, three people received Purple Hearts for injuries sustained while operating convoys.

AF fitness program reviewed

By Tech. Sgt. David Jablonski

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Air Force health officials recommended seven changes to the fitness program during the program's first annual review.

This first annual assessment consists of reviews by three panels: functional, external and leadership, said Lt. Col. Sherry Sasser, chief of health promotions for the Air Force surgeon general. Air Force officials conducted the functional review while experts from outside agencies and universities gave their opinion in an external review.

The leadership review will begin in late April. Commanders and senior enlisted leaders will be randomly selected via e-mail to take a Web-based survey. The survey data will be compiled and forwarded to Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper.

One consistent aspect of the program, however, is that Airmen worldwide are embracing fitness as a way of life.

"We are seeing a change in the culture of the Air Force," Colonel Sasser said. "Gyms are being used morning, noon and night, and are packed. Units are running together. It's wonderful to see."

In the interest of fostering the positive trend, officials said they are considering the following changes to better the program.

✓ Award full points on the body composition component of the test if the body mass index is within a healthy range. The Air Force

is adding height and weight back into the standard to accommodate Airmen unable to obtain the minimum abdominal circumference but are still at a normal weight for their height. National Institutes of Health officials define an index of less than 25 as a normal or healthy weight.

✓ Move the waist-circumference measurement to a controlled area for people rated poor or marginal, and are being retested to reduce inconsistencies.

✓ Lengthen run times for tests conducted at higher elevations.

✓ Retest Airmen who are rated "marginal" at 90 days instead of 180 days.

✓ Promote nutrition as an important aspect of education and intervention.

✓ Emphasize regular physical training rather than test results.

✓ Reinforce commanders' accountability.

A proposed change to weighing the programs components at 60-20-10-10 instead of the current 50-30-10-10 was rejected. The weighted areas, expressed in percentages, correspond to the run, waist measurement, crunches and pushups.

Two smaller changes will be made to the assessment criteria. Values for females aged 50 to 54 were not consistent with all other age categories, so officials will adjust the criteria according to American College of Sports Medicine standards. A category was also added for people older than 60.

The program changes are expected to be implemented in June, officials said.

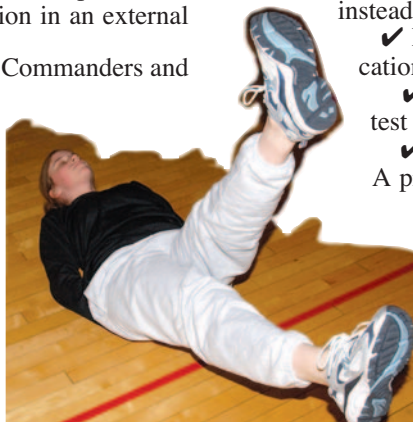


Photo by Airman 1st Class Ryan Wilson

Airman 1st Class Jackie Wilson, 509th Communications Squadron, does flutter kicks during a physical training session.

Commander's Corner

By Col. Chris Miller

509th Bomb Wing Commander

FIT TO FIGHT. Air Force leadership just completed a review of our "new" physical fitness program now that it's been in place for a while. It's clear we are on the right path as a service, and we are committed to staying on track! This is not a fad or a passing fancy, but a change to Air Force culture that we're all making happen. It's already made a positive difference in many Airmen's lives.

We've always maintained our aircraft, equipment and facilities in top shape — we've got to maintain our "primary weapon system" (ourselves) just as well. Keep up your fitness focus — see you at the next Warrior Run!

OUR CIVILIAN TEAMMATES.

Not every member of our team wears a uniform. We could not function without the efforts of Whiteman's hundreds of dedicated civil service employees.

In order to better integrate their contributions to protecting our nation, the Department of Defense is changing to a new structure called the National Security Personnel System. This is a fundamentally different way of managing our civilian workforce, but with the same overarching goal — putting the right people into the right jobs, and recognizing and rewarding them for what they do. For many of our civilian employees, this may be a time of

questions and uncertainty.

All of us, whether we wear a uniform or not, need to take time to understand these new processes. Our local civilian personnel office is working hard to make sure information is readily available. *Don't* rely on the rumor mill for your education — go to the source. No significant transition is ever easy, but this will make us an even stronger team than we are now.

To our civilians: *thank you* for what you give to the mission each and every day!

SECOND TIME'S A CHARM. Tuesday's tornado drill was a significant improvement over last week's event. Thanks to all who put together the quick refresher event on short notice.

Next week, we have a Nuclear Surety Exercise, part of a series of events to get ready for the inspection this summer. You'll get out of these practices what you put into them; when we find a flaw or a way to improve, let's fix it!

Our wing plans office continues to do an outstanding job ensuring we exercise the many critical capabilities that make us mission ready. Thanks!

GOOD STEWARDSHIP. When we donate to the Air Force Assistance Fund, it helps our own Air Force members.

If you've been thinking about a donation but haven't put pen to paper, please take the time — you make a difference when you give, and the person you help may be your squadron mate or another friend.



Photo by Senior Airman Joe Lacdan

Ed Harris, Shiela Moskwa and Cheryl Preuitt discuss changes to the National Security Personnel System.

'Let your behavior set the standard'



Photo by Senior Airman Joe Lacdan

Cpts. Daniel Jones and Adam Slaughter, 509th Bomb Wing Legal Office, discuss how to emphasize ethics and core values in the wing.

By Capt. Daniel Jones

509th Bomb Wing Legal Office

Barbara Tuchman, a Pulitzer Prize-winning historian, said in her remarks to the U.S. Army War College, the qualities of generalship divide themselves into two categories: those of character, and those of professional capacity.

Recently, the U.S. Air Force Judge Advocate General's Corps suffered a failure in both.

As written in *Air Force Times*, former Maj. Gen. Thomas Fiscus, as the JAG, failed to demonstrate those qualities of character and professional capacity required to be a leader in the Air Force. However, those leadership qualities also extend to every Airman.

In response to this recent, unfortunate event for the JAG Corps and the Air Force, Maj. Gen. Jack Rives, deputy JAG, shared his thoughts and expectations for us as lawyers, and for everyone as Air Force members. As legal counsel for the 509th Bomb Wing, these comments reinforce our beliefs as Air Force counsel and remind us all of our responsibilities as Airmen. "I advised you that we must take positive steps and move beyond the wake of the former JAG's misconduct," General Rives said. "Today, I will focus on adherence to Air Force core values and JAG core principles.

"Mr. Fiscus' case demonstrates what happens when an individual fails to adhere to our standards of conduct. Make no mistake: his actions do not reflect on you individ-

ually. However, each of us contributes to the reputation of the JAG Corps as a whole. Because we act as trusted counselors to commanders on the law, on Air Force standards and on difficult questions involving moral judgment, we must ensure our conduct, character and credibility are above reproach," General Rives said.

The general highlighted four principles.

Leadership — "Gen. Douglas MacArthur observed that we're always on parade," he said. "Words can be important, but they're meaningless unless matched by deeds. True leaders understand this and offer their own conduct, character and commitment as examples for Airmen to follow. Like it or not, we're all role models. Let your behavior set the standard for others. Don't become someone's 'negative lesson learned.'"

Institutional loyalty — "We have all sworn an oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States. Our loyalty is to the nation and to the Air Force as an institution; such loyalty transcends loyalty to any individual. Everyone must understand that personal loyalty to a person ends when he or she ceases to act in accordance with the law, regulations or standards. When our colleagues, superiors and subordinates act ethically, morally and legally, they deserve our loyalty. When their behavior falls short of Air Force standards, they will be held accountable.

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The deadline for article submissions to the Whiteman Spirit is noon Friday. If a holiday falls on Friday, the deadline then becomes 4 p.m. Thursday. Articles will be published on a space-available basis. Submission doesn't guarantee publication.

For more information, call the *Whiteman Spirit* office at 687-6133, fax us at 687-7948, e-mail: whiteman.spirit@whiteman.AF.mil or write to us at:

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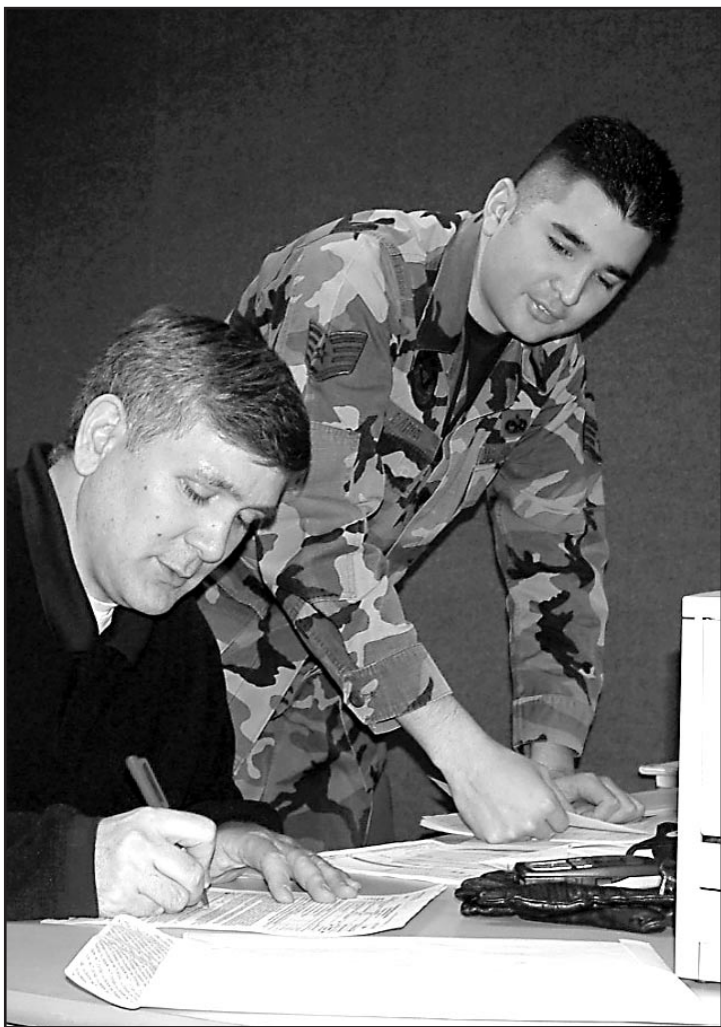


Photo by Staff Sgt. Francesca Popp

Tax season winds down

Retired Staff Sgt. Walter Wesley signs his tax forms as Staff Sgt. Jayson Baros, volunteer income tax assistance representative, looks on. As of Monday, VITA representatives have prepared 1,339 returns with refunds totaling \$2,332,620. People who had the tax office prepare their 2004 tax returns saved \$197,317 in preparation fees. Sergeant Baros is a 509th Maintenance Operations Squadron member.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Lauren Padden

Feel the burn

Todd Stewart, Department of Agriculture, uses a tool to contain the flames during a controlled burn on the airfield here Sunday. The controlled burn rotates between three sections of the flightline every year and burns three to four acres. The burn is performed as part of the Bird Avoidance Strike Hazard program. By burning the woody vegetation wildlife live and feed off of, birds are less likely to disturb the flightline.

Reduced pin allows easier access for MyPay users

By Staff Sgt. Todd Lopez
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Airmen have one less password to remember thanks to a new link between the Air Force Portal and the Defense Finance and Accounting Service myPay Web site.

With much of the Air Force transitioning from face-to-face customer service to online self-help Web sites, many Airmen are left with several passwords, login names and Web addresses to remember.

For Airmen, the Air Force Portal has eliminated much of the trouble of remembering all those passwords and login names. And recently, designers of the portal and

DFAS maintainers teamed up to enable Airmen to remember one less password.

Airmen can now have the portal remember their login name and password for myPay, the DFAS online site for pay information, leave and earnings statements, tax forms and allotments.

The change makes it easier for Airmen to access their information online, and is another example of how the portal is making life easier for Airmen to get the information they need, said Richard Gustafson, Air Force financial management chief information officer.

"This has made easy access to pay information available to all Airmen across the entire community," Mr. Gustafson said.

"Integration of applications such as myPay is just one example of the power of the Air Force Portal to our organization. Each capability that is added increases the value of the portal and makes our lives a little easier."

To take advantage of the new feature, portal users must already have an active myPay account.

After logging on to the portal, users can click "Applications" on the right side of the screen and then scroll down to "myPay (E/MSS)." When they click the myPay link, the portal will create a dialogue box to help guide them through the setup process.

Setup requires entering the user's login ID and PIN for myPay. Once set up, users

need only log into the portal and click the myPay link to get instant access to their pay information.

Having to remember many user passwords is one of the reasons the portal was created. The idea is called "reduced sign-on" and the portal does it for myriad Air Force information applications and Web sites.

Reduced sign-on is beneficial because it eliminates the need for multiple passwords and login names, and it provides a single and consistent login interface and deters the most common threat to network security — users writing down their passwords, Mr. Gustafson said. Visit the Air Force Portal at <http://my.af.mil>.

Air Force civilians required to view LES statements online

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Civilian employees of the Air Force will be required to use the myPay system to access their leave and earning statements beginning March 31.

The change brings Air Force civilians in line with active duty-and reserve-component Airmen who are already required to access their pay data online, officials said. Hard-copy statements will no longer be mailed.

Printing and mailing costs are some reasons for the change, officials said. But the primary goal is to provide people with more services and quicker access in an online for-



mat.

There are numerous advantages to using myPay, officials said. Civilian users can view and print their last 26 pay statements; change allotments, direct deposit or tax with-

holding information; and buy savings bonds. Users may also view and print their W-2 tax forms.

One major advantage is availability, officials said. Information may be viewed or changed from any computer with an Internet connection 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The myPay system can be found at <http://www.dfas.mil/mypay>. New users will need to establish a personal identification number.

For more information, visit the Web site or call the finance office at 687-2006.

Whiteman Spirit Award



Tech. Sgt. Sherry Odett
509th Medical Support Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Sherry Odett, 509th Medical Support Squadron, received the Whiteman Spirit Award from Col. Chris Miller, 509th Bomb Wing commander, Monday.

First Lt. Eric Kerr, 509th MDSS, nominated Sergeant Odett for the award.

Lieutenant Kerr said Sergeant Odett volunteered to help other departments in her squadron with their duties. During one instance, she helped an understaffed personal reliability program department.

Sergeant Odett also helped encourage physical fitness in her squadron and makes sure TriCare staff members have enough time to exercise, Lieutenant Kerr said.

“Sergeant Odett is a true team player,” he said. “She goes above and beyond to help others.”

Personally Speaking

Time on station: 8 months
Time in service: 15 years
Hometown: Watertown, N.Y.
Children: Briana, 11
Hobbies: Shopping, spending time with family and friends, and traveling.
Goals: To finish my bachelor’s degree and make master sergeant.
Best thing about Whiteman: The 509th Medical Group.
Pet Peeves: Negative people.
What motivates your winning spirit? My office! I have a wonderful group of people to work with. They make it nice to come to work.
If you could change one thing about Whiteman, what would it be? Make a bigger base exchange and food court.

CHARACTER, from Page 2

Equal opportunity — “Every member of this corps is entitled to progress professionally on the basis of his or her performance and potential, not on the basis of friendship, favoritism or any other inappropriate factor. Those who look to us as role models should never doubt where we stand in terms of fair treatment for each individual.

“**Self-respect** underlies the Air Force core values. Self-respect is based upon personal integrity and adherence to the highest standards of honesty, courage, responsibility and accountability,” the general said. “Respect for our institutions underlies service before self and explains why we go the extra mile to support the Air Force mission. Mutual respect among Airmen who value each other’s professional contributions and personal qualities promotes excellence in all we do.”

The legal office staff works hard to uphold the core values as expressed by General Rives. We provide the wing with the best legal counsel available, and we’re here for members of the Air Force who may, at some point, need legal assistance in some capacity. We hope General Rives’ comments also emphasize to you our dedication to the Air Force core values and encourage you to integrate those values in your personal and professional lives.

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1st Sergeant's View

(Editor's note: The 1st Sergeant's View gives Whiteman first sergeants a chance to remind people of correct uniform wear, customs and courtesies, and proper military decorum.)

By Master Sgt. John Watry
509th Medical Group First Sergeant

We make choices every day. Almost everything that happens in our lives is dictated by the choices we make. These choices vary from the mundane, to the major, to the in-between.

The in-between choices are the ones that have the most impact in your everyday life. These choices not only affect you, but can also have a great influence on those around you. The idea, of course, is to make good choices, avoid bad ones, and if you do make a bad choice, to learn from it.

There are some who blame others for the bad choices they make, because they don't want to take responsibility for their actions. During my 13 years in various supervisor positions, I've heard many excuses from people who, for whatever reason, weren't following the rules. People have given me excuses for why they were speeding on base, not following aircraft technical data and showing up for a deployment with alcohol on their breath. Every excuse boiled down to one thing, the person *chose* to do it.

We make bad choices of varying degree and making a bad choice doesn't mean you're a bad person. However, the way you respond to it can say a lot about you. When you make a bad choice, don't blame someone else. Take responsibility for it, learn from it and don't make the same mistake again.

Choose to be an optimist, not a pessimist. Have you ever reported to a new assignment and some of the first people you meet tell you it's the worst place they've been? If everything you hear is negative, how do you think you'll feel? I've met people like this at each of the six bases I've been assigned to during my 16 years in the Air Force. I'm not saying I haven't been to some undesirable places, because I have, but I've always chosen to make the best of it. Everywhere I've been stationed, I've heard Airmen say they hate it because there's supposedly nothing to do.



Photo by Senior Airman Joe Lacdan

Master Sgt. John Watry, 509th Medical Group first sergeant, speaks to Tech. Sgt. Nate Warren and Airman 1st Class Kelly Myers, 509th MDSS, about making good choices.

These are usually the same individuals that don't get out and do anything.

Life isn't going to come knocking at your door; you need to make the choice to get involved with the base or the community, find something you like to do, and then get out there and do it. Having a bad attitude isn't going to make it better. If anything, it will drag you and those around you down. Choose to have a good attitude and it will make it better for everyone. It's your choice of attitude that will make the difference.

When you see someone or something that's wrong, choose to step in and try to correct it. It could be as simple as correcting someone's dress and appearance, or cutting people off when they've had too much to drink. It doesn't matter what rank you are; it's everyone's responsibility.

If you choose not to act, you are, in effect, condoning

the behavior of the other person and you can lose credibility with others.

If you see someone who's been drinking and chooses to drive, do you make the bad choice and let them, or do you make the right choice and prevent them from possibly hurting themselves or others? If you made the bad choice, could you live with yourself if someone was hurt or killed? Choose to step in and make that positive difference.

Making a good choice isn't always easy but it's the right thing to do. Take responsibility for your choices and learn from the bad ones. Choose to be an optimist, find something you like to do and get involved; it's your life, so live it!

Remember, choosing not to act can have just as much of an impact as choosing to act. Above all, remember you're judged by the choices you make and your choices are your responsibility.

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Spotlight on justice

In January, one military member was court-martialed, 13 members received Articles 15 and five members were involuntarily discharged.

Court-Martial

Airman Bronston-James Batara, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron, was tried and convicted by special court-martial for multiple violations of the Uniform Code of Military Justice under Article 112a, wrongful use of marijuana and cocaine, and distribution of cocaine. He was sentenced to a bad conduct discharge, confinement for five months and reduction to airman basic.

Articles 15

A senior airman from the 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron received an Article 15 for being absent without leave and misusing a government credit card. The punishment was a loss of one stripe and a suspension of a second stripe, 30 days base restriction and 30 days extra duty.

An airman first class from the 509th Civil Engineer Squadron received an Article 15 for failing to go to physical training. The punishment was a suspended reduction to airman, forfeiture of \$100 pay per month for two months, 14 days base restriction and 14 days extra duty.

An airman first class from the 509th CES received an Article 15 for underage drinking and driving while intoxicated. The punishment was a loss of one stripe and a suspension of a second stripe, forfeiture of \$100 per month for two months, one month suspended, 30 days base restriction and 14 days extra duty.

An airman first class from the 509th CES received an Article 15 for failing to obey a no contact order. The punishment was a suspended reduction to airman, 45 days base restriction and 14 days extra duty.

An airman first class from the 509th CES received an Article 15 for underage drinking and damaging a car. The punishment was reduction to airman basic, suspended forfeiture of \$100 pay per month for two months, 30 days base restriction and 14 days extra duty.

An airman first class from the 509th LRS received an Article 15 for misusing of a government credit card. The punishment was a reduction to airman basic.

An airman first class from the 509th LRS received an Article 15 for failing to keep his dormitory room in inspection order. The punishment was a suspended reduction to airman and 14 days extra duty.

An airman first class from the 509th Munitions Squadron received an Article 15 for illegally using Tylenol-3, a controlled substance, without a prescription. The punishment was a suspended reduction to airman.

A senior airman from the 509th MUNS received an Article 15 for distributing Tylenol-3, a controlled substance. The punishment was a suspended reduction to airman first class and a reprimand.

A staff sergeant from the 509th Maintenance Squadron received an Article 15 for engaging in an unprofessional relationship. The punishment was a suspended reduction to senior airman, 30 days extra duty and a reprimand.

A technical sergeant from the 509th MXS received an Article 15 for driving while intoxicated. The punishment was a suspended reduction to staff sergeant, forfeiture of \$700 pay per month for two months and 30 days extra duty.

An airman from the 509th Security Forces Squadron received an Article 15 for failing to conduct wood line checks. The punishment was a reduction to airman basic and a reprimand.

An airman from the 509th SFS received an Article 15 for sleeping on post. The punishment was 30 days extra duty and a reprimand.

Discharges

An airman from the 509th SFS received a general discharge for minor disciplinary infractions. The misconduct included failure to go, disobeying a lawful order, failure to maintain government quarters and sleeping on post.

An airman from the 509th AMXS received a general discharge for minor disciplinary infractions. The misconduct included failure to go, underage drinking and assault.

An airman basic from the 509th LRS received a general discharge for a pattern of misconduct, including dereliction of duty, destruction of government property, misusing a government travel card and underage drinking.

An airman first class from the 509th CES received a general discharge for minor disciplinary infractions. The misconduct included being late to work on numerous occasions and failure to obey a lawful order.

An airman from the 509th SFS received a general discharge for minor disciplinary infractions. The misconduct included failure to go, failure to follow dress and appearance standards, dereliction of duty, disrespect toward an NCO and failure to obey a lawful order.

Whiteman's who's who first sergeants' group

(Editor's Note: The first sergeants' group officers were incorrectly listed in the March 11 Whiteman Spirit. For more information on about this group, contact one of the people listed.)

First Sergeants' Group

President: **Master Sgt. Darlene Buss**, 509th Mission Support Squadron
Vice President: **Master Sgt. Dale Spotten**, 509th Munitions Squadron
Treasurer: **Master Sgt. Jay Gomez**, 509th Maintenance Operations Squadron
Secretary: **Master Sgt. Mark Cherry**, 509th Communications Squadron
Note: Elections take place in January and July.

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Training helps protect network

By **1st Lt. Thomas Woodring**
509th Communications Squadron

Most people think of the B-2 when we talk about Whiteman's premier weapon system. However, there's another weapon system here that almost all of us use every day — the base network and your desktop computer.

The Air Force considers its network a mission-critical weapons system. And as a weapons system, we share in the responsibility to protect it. Although there are network professionals at all levels working to protect against viruses, hackers and other threats, it's up to all of us to protect the network.

You, the end-user, are the first line of defense for our network. As such, it's important for you to understand your roles and responsibilities as defenders of the network, and the potential impacts of inappropriate use or unreported suspicious activities. The Air Combat Command enterprise is a centric environment. This means each base in ACC is tied together through an electronic system. This centric environment means a risk assumed by one user is literally a risk shared by all. Therefore, the responsibility falls to each one of us to promote and maintain operational security for this mission-critical weapons system.



The Air Force recognizes the importance of the end-user's role in network security, and has mandated each user to complete information awareness training prior to gaining network access, as well as annual refresher training. This issue will

explain the dangers of sending personal pictures, music, movie clips, or other files to a friend, coworker, spouse, or other family members. It also covers the importance of following password rules, not downloading internet files and not installing illegal or unauthorized software.

In efforts to meet the Air Force's new annual refresher training requirement, ACC has mandated all users to take their annual refresher training as soon as possible.

The information awareness computer-based training is located at https://www.smartforce.com/learning_community, and can also be found on the Air Force Portal top 10 list.

Protecting the network is serious business. Each of us has a vested interest in keeping this vital system secure. The network is only as strong as the weakest link. Unit work group managers can help access the information awareness training Web site. For more details, call the 509th Bomb Wing Information Assurance Office at 687-5011.

We all share the responsibility to keep our network secure.

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Reservists set sail to participate in annual U.S., Korean exercise



Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Bill Ackman, Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare Unit 114 equipment operator, moves conex boxes to prepare for the deployment.



Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Clara Winkler inputs deployment order information for Seaman Jason Lane. The reservists are Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare Unit 114 security team members.



Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Bryan Bogart and Petty Officer 1st Class Dennis Ova inventory a table of allowance boxes. The boxes include supplies such as charts, log books, pens, pencils, paper, trash bags and more. These supplies help ensure unit members can complete their assigned job. They're members of the Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare Unit 114.

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Francesca Popp
Public Affairs

For the first time since docking here in 2001, the Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare Unit 114 is participating in a joint and combined field training exercise this month in the Republic of Korea.

The Reception, Staging, Onward Movement and Integration, and Foal Eagle '05 exercise is defense-oriented event designed to improve the U.S. Combined Forces Command's ability to work with Korean forces to defend the ROK against external aggression.

The Navy reservists learned about its participation in this exercise in August 2004. This deployment will fulfill unit members' two-week annual training requirement.

Navy Cmdr. Phil Old, MIUWU 114 commanding officer, said unit members will train with their ROK counterparts, providing port security and harbor defense of Korea's newest and most modern major commercial seaport.

"This is the first time in at least 10 years that MIUWU 114 has operated in the Korean Theater of Operations. While there is no major change in the mission, this deployment provides an opportunity for the unit's current members to work with our allies in the ROK navy and experience a different culture," Commander Old said. "The deployment also provides the opportunity to operate with the U.S. Army in working the logistics of deploying to one port in Korea, and then convoying the unit's gear and equipment completely across the peninsula to another port."

Navy Chief Warrant Officer Dave Miller said to prepare for this deployment sailors conducted a series of field training exercises and classroom training. "Additionally, key unit personnel have attended various schools and field operations to become fully trained on the equipment we will be using and operating during the exercise," he said.

The training unit members received before deploying helps them conduct surveillance of a 20-mile stretch of waterway to deter and detect threats to allied shipping vessels and port facilities. It will also provide command and control to ROK navy small boats to counter unfriendly forces from infiltrators, mini subs and terrorists.



Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Scott Young, administrative specialist, inventories a mobility bag. Items in the bag include a flak vest, helmet, load-bearing vest, a canteen and an entrenchment tool.



Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Morgan Estes, surface leading petty officer, performs a system check in the radar, sonar and surveillance center. Sailors who work in the RSSC can detect, monitor and provide surveillance of all friendly and possible threats in a port. It allows unit members to see the big picture and is the nerve center of MIUWU 114.

This space is reserved for advertisements

What's happening

Education

For more details, visit <https://wwwmil.whiteman.af.mil/509mss/educ/homepage.htm> or call 687-5750.

Assessment survey set

The base training and education services flight is conducting a needs assessment survey to gauge the educational needs of the Whiteman community. Active-duty military, dependents, civilians and contractors are asked to complete the survey.

To access the survey, visit <https://afvec.langley.af.mil> and click on "Take the Survey." Feedback and comments are vital to ensure the training and education services flight offers programs that fit your needs.

Community

Women's committee hosts movie night

The Women's History Month committee hosts a movie night beginning at 7 p.m. today at the community activities center. The movies are:

✓ **Iron Jawed Angels** — a drama about women's suffrage starring Hilary Swank and Frances O'Connor.

✓ **The Incredibles** — an animated adventure about a family of superheros starring the voices of Craig Nelson, Holly Hunter and Samuel Jackson.

Child monitoring will be available. The event is free; however, a donation of a non-perishable food item is encouraged. Donations will be given to the Warrensburg Survival Adult Abuse Center.

WOSC meets March 31

The Whiteman Officers' Spouses' Club meets at 6:30 p.m. March 31 at Mission's End. Participants will watch a movie and play games to test their level of being a movie connoisseur. For more details or to R.S.V.P. by March 25, call Michelle Hunt at 563-4858 or e-mail kev-inandmichelle@charter.net.

ALS graduation set

The Whiteman Airman Leadership School Class 05-C's graduation begins at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday at Mission's End. The guest speaker is retired Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Eric Benkin.

The menu is mixed greens with balsamic dressing, lasagna platter with grilled zucchini and garlic bread. The cost is \$15.95 for members and \$17.95 for nonmembers. The uniform is mess dress/semi-formal for military, and coat and tie for civilians. See a member of class 05-C to sign up.

Airmen's Attic patrons need ID

The Airmen's Attic is open to members airman basic to staff sergeant and their family members. Patrons must have an ID card to use the attic. Donations are welcome and may be dropped off 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The attic is in need of a television and DVD or VCR donation for a children's area. If you can help with this, call the family support center at 687-7132.

Family Support

Call 687-7132 for details on these events or other family support center activities. Events take place at the FSC.

Pre-separation briefing offered

A pre-separation briefing for people separating from the military begins at 8 a.m. Monday. Representatives from the military personnel flight, family support center, Reserve and finance will provide information. The MPF separations and retirements office schedules members for this briefing. For more details, call 687-1500 or 687-6720.

FSC offers financial refresher

A financial briefing for senior airmen and below not attending the First-Term Airmen Course begins at 1 p.m. Monday. Reservations are required.

Mr. Versatility

He starred on the Academy men's squad. He led the All-Air Force team in scoring. But Tyron Wright has spent his life proving others wrong.

By Senior Airman Joe Lacdan
Public Affairs

His body gave the floor a beating. Sometimes, Tyron Wright landed on his back, other times on his shoulder.

Repeatedly, the 12-year-old Wright crashed on the tile floor of what local kids called the "Old Gym" in Columbia, S.C. When Wright would attempt to drive to the hoop, the bigger, taller high school kids pushed the smaller Wright to the tile.

"They would knock me down and keep playing," said Wright, now a 27-year-old captain assigned to the 509th Communications Squadron. "It was no blood no foul."

Fourteen years later, those hard-earned lessons paid dividends. Wright, now 8 inches taller and with years of hoops experience, led the All-Air Force team in scoring in 2004 and also was a key contributor on the All-Armed Forces team.

Cadet on the Court

Wright heard the talk when he arrived at the U.S. Air Force Academy's Colorado Springs campus in the fall of 1996. Wright's coaches told him the odds were against him making the academy's men's team. Heck, they said there was a chance he wouldn't even be on the junior varsity squad, Wright said. But he never lost his swagger.

Wright's critics did have their points. He had an ugly jump shot. His mechanics needed work. He was too short to play inside and was unproven on the perimeter. Wright said because of his unconventional style of play, his peers often underestimated him.

Wright, now the 509th CS Network Systems Flight commander, could count on his athleticism, quick feet and strength. But his most valuable attribute came from within.

"He was blessed by God with his physical abilities," said his father, Charles, who coached Tyron as a youth. "But he *worked* at it. A lot of people may have more ability, but they may not work as hard as he does."

His work on the high school hardwood didn't draw much attention from top-level basketball programs. Wright averaged 8 points per game playing in the shadow of standout guard Tim Heskett, who went on to play four seasons at the University of Oklahoma.

Rather it was Wright's performance on the gridiron that drew the most attention. The three-sport athlete was a standout receiver at Lexington High (S.C.) and drew offers from big name Division I football programs for his ability to haul passes in traffic. Also a track star, he ran a 4.6 in the 40 and considered playing flanker for the Falcons' football team. But his love for basketball kept him on the court.

Despite his proven athletic skills, coaches considered Wright a very raw hoops player — a project even. Although they had their doubts, they penciled Wright on the JV team roster.

"He did have an unorthodox playing style," said Heskett. "He wasn't great at one

thing; but he was good at a lot of things."

During preseason scrimmages, Wright received a rude introduction to Division I basketball against Jarmica Reese, a junior all conference player. Reese outplayed the smaller Wright with quickness, and out-muscled the freshman for rebounds.

"He was beating me at everything," said Wright.

As tryouts approached, he decided he to work even harder. He turned to his father, a former offensive lineman at South Carolina State University for advice. Wait for your time, be ready and take advantage of it, his dad told him.

"Tyron has always had a never-give up attitude," Charles Wright said. "He's a competitor. It doesn't matter whether he's playing checkers or basketball."

Most of the academy coaching staff didn't know much about the lanky swing player, except one, assistant coach Dean Christian.

Christian knew he had something special when he first watched Wright play in the South Carolina State Tournament as a high school senior in the winter of 1996. Christian marveled as he watched Wright, then an undersized post player, outhustle taller opponents for rebounds and scores.

Determined to mold the 6-foot-4-inch Wright into a college player, Christian barked orders and gave Wright earfuls when the freshman turned the ball over or made an errant pass. Under Christian's tutelage, Wright learned how to study defenses and analyze his play on game film.

"(Coach Christian) used to push me very hard," Wright said. "Because he knew my attitude and my competitive drive."

"I told him to keep fighting and keep working as hard as he could," said Christian, now an assistant with Southern Methodist University in Dallas. "I knew eventually he would be the 'man' for us."

If only Christian knew then how prophetic his words would be.

After two years starring on the academy's JV squad playing junior college programs, he joined the varsity in the winter of 1998. Still, his coaches expected him to be a role player off the bench. They told Wright to score, and what happened next would change the academy's basketball fortunes.

Learning to 'Drive'

An 8-foot wide patch of gravel was his world. Every day, after school, on weekends and with friends, Tyron peppered the hoop at his one story mid-suburban home with thousands of layups.

On that narrow driveway, he made his shots count. If Wright missed, he had to chase the ball into the grass. When leaping towards the rim, he had to keep his body in check or he would collide with the metal pole.



Graphic by Tech. Sgt. Mathew Nisotis

Tyron Wright, 509th Communications Squadron, became a hoops star at the Air Force Academy and led the All-Air Force team in scoring.

"I learned to play basketball in my driveway," Wright said. "I learned how to score in a tight space."

Years later at the academy, against the stiff defenses of college basketball, he put those skills earned on his driveway gravel to use.

By the middle of his junior season, he led the Falcons in scoring at better than 18 points per game. The campus and local press articles buzzed about the soft-spoken kid from South Carolina who seemingly

took the Western Athletic Conference by storm. Wright overpowered smaller players and blitzed taller players with his speed and body control.

"He defies the odds," Christian said. "You don't expect a guy who's 6-4 to dominate a guy who's 6-9."

"I wonder sometimes how many guys like him are out there and aren't getting recruited just because they don't fit the (basketball) prototype," Christian said.

Finally, then-Falcon head basketball coach Reggie Minton inserted Wright into the starting lineup, and the junior responded by becoming the team's offensive catalyst.

In a contest against then nationally-ranked Wyoming, with seconds ticking and the score tied, he dribbled until 12 seconds remained on the clock and began driving. He motioned to his teammates to clear the lane. As Wright drove to the hoop, he sensed Wyoming's center coming at him for the block, but the center came too late. Wright felt a hand jab at his face, maintained his balance and kissed a shot off the glass and into the net. He sunk the winning

free throw as the Falcons held on for a three-point win.

"Winning is the only thing he'll accept," Christian said. "He wills his team to win."

The true display of his abilities came on a cold February night against the University of Nevada-Las Vegas, when Wright dropped a career-high 36 points on current NBA star Shawn Marion. Wright led the Falcons in scoring his junior year and ranked second his senior season. By the time he left the academy, he became one of the better all-around players in his conference and could play four positions. He could score in the paint and run the perimeter. Not bad for a guy who wasn't even supposed to make the team. His efforts earned him All-Mountain West Conference honors his senior year.

His graduation from the academy in 2000 paved the way to his next proving ground: making the All-Air Force team.

Despite his reputation at the Academy, Wright was cut during tryouts for the All-Air Force team in the fall of 2000. Three years later, Wright not only made the team, but became the team's leading scorer. He led the squad to a runner-up finish at the 2004 Armed Forces Basketball Championships at Charleston Air Force Base, S.C., averaging 16.3 points and 2.5 assists. He also earned a spot on the prestigious All-Armed Forces team in 2003.

Wright's success at the academy and the All-Air Force team didn't surprise Christian.

"There's a lot of great players and great people who they were told they couldn't do something or be something," Christian said. "I think to Tyron's credit he used the (negative) comments (about his skills) as motivation, rather than allowing it to stop him in his tracks. It's a testament to the type of guy he is. It's something that every young person needs to try to learn."



Services Page editor.....Jamie Jennings
509th Services Squadron.....687-6525
*No federal endorsement of mentioned sponsors intended.

Sports & Recreation

Outdoor Recreation 687-5565

Boater safety class

A boater safety class takes place 8 a.m.-5 p.m. March 19 at outdoor recreation. This is a mandatory class for anyone who wants to rent a boat from outdoor recreation. Issues such as safety, state laws, outdoor recreation rules and using boating equipment will be discussed. A video from the state water patrol will be shown and a certification test will be given at the end of the course. Participants can tour boats after the class. Call outdoor recreation for more information and to sign up.

Katy Trial ride

The Air Force Base-level Cycling Program ride takes place 8 a.m. -4 p.m. March 26. The 25-mile ride begins in Clinton, Mo., and finish in Green Ridge, Mo. Participants must bring a bike, water and lunch. Outdoor recreation will provide a bike, if needed, and a helmet free of charge for this event. The \$7 fee includes transportation. Contact outdoor recreation for more information. Sign up by Thursday.

Royal Oaks Golf Course 687-5572

Chili bowl

The Royal Oaks Chili Bowl four-person scramble begins at 9 a.m. April 2. Sign up by March 25. The cost is \$15 plus cart and greens fee.

Tournaments

Tournament dates are filling up quickly. People wishing to schedule a golf tournament at the Royal Oaks Golf Course must call as soon as possible.

Food & Fun

Mission's End 687-4422

Comedy night

Comedian Ed Hart performs 8-10 p.m. today at Mission's End. The cost is \$5 for members and \$10 for nonmembers. Mr. Hart has appeared on "America's Funniest People" and been featured on Showtime's "Comedy Club Network." His concert performances include shows with Crosby, Stills and Nash; Jimmy Buffet and Henny Youngman. Denise Ramsden from Chicago will open for Mr. Hart.

Membership night

Members can take advantage of the week's \$1 per plate special 5-7 p.m. Fridays. Today's special is Gasthaus Nacht.

Mega March madness

Exclusively from DirecTV*, Mega March Madness* brings you up to 37 out-of-market CBS-produced broadcasts from the first three rounds of the NCAA* Division 1 men's basketball tournament, up to and including the Sweet 16. This is available for members only.

Easter brunch

An Easter brunch takes place 11 a.m.-1 p.m. March 27. Club members and their families receive \$2 off the price. The menu includes scrambled eggs, sausage, hash browns, biscuits and gravy, roast beef, Lobster Newburg, three cheese stuffed chicken, rice, mashed potatoes, noodles, salad, fruit, desserts and drinks.

Stars & Strikes 687-5114

Sunday family dollar day

Families can bowl noon-8 p.m. for \$1 per game per bowler and \$1 shoe rental.

St. Patrick's Day tournament winners

The winners of the tournament held March 14 were Dean Hinthier, Randy Wagner and Robert Anderson.



Ozark Inn 687-5476

Beginning April 4, carry-out items will be restricted to military members in uniform only. Contact the dining facility for more details. Call 687-6503 for more details.

Easter brunch

An Easter meal takes place 7 a.m.-12:30 p.m. March 27 at the Ozark Inn. The menu includes split pea soup with ham, strip loin steak, barbecue ribs, roast turkey, rice pilaf, baked potatoes, brussels sprouts, corn on the cob, corn bread, fruit salad, potato salad and assorted desserts.

Movie Schedule

Friday & Saturday

Pooh's Heffalump Movie 7 p.m.
Animated

Sunday

Are We There Yet 5:30 p.m.
Starring — Ice Cube & Nia Long

Adults: \$3.50 Children: \$1.75
Movie Recording Line: 687-5110

Movies subject to change due to availability. For current and future movie listings log on to

<http://www.aafes.com/ems/conus/whiteman.htm>.

Tickets & Travel 687-5643

Need plane tickets, hotel accommodations, cruise information or information on local attractions? Stop by the office located inside the skills development center 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays.

Community Activities

Skills Development Center 687-5691

Semi-annual stained glass sale

The skills development center offers a 25 percent discount on all in-stock stained glass during March.

Framing class

A beginner's framing class takes place 6-9 p.m. March 31 at the skills development center. Students will earn certification to cut single and double mats, assemble, cut glass and join a frame. Students must bring a 5x7 or smaller picture to frame.

Pottery classes

Learn to make beautiful pottery in this three-session class. The cost is \$30 plus supplies. Sign up at the skills development center. People wanting to take this class may sign up any time.

Stained glass panel class

Stained glass panel classes take place 6-9 p.m. Thursdays at the skills development center. People choose their own pattern or create one, and learn to construct stained glass panels by using the foiling method. This is a six-week course that you can join any Thursday. The cost is \$45 plus supplies.

Flag boxes and coin holders

The arts and crafts center has a large selection of flag boxes and coin holders for sale. Boxes and holders are available for each military service. These are great gifts for retirements or going away gifts. Stop by to check out the selection.

Veterinary Clinic 687-2667

Heartworm testing

Spring brings warmer weather, which means a higher risk of your dog contracting heartworm parasites. Have your dog tested yearly for heartworms and keep it on a preventative medicine year round. If your pet has missed any doses, call the vet clinic to schedule a heartworm test. Visit the vet clinic at 401 Lockbourne Terrace between 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays or 8:30-2:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Family Child Care 687-1180

Extended duty care

Register now for the extended duty care program. It's available to help parents meet child care requirements for extra duty hours and child care emergencies. Care is provided in a contracted, licensed family child care home to augment regular care arrangements. An application must be completed before participation. Call for more details.

Youth Center 687-5586

Volunteer coaches are needed

Coaches are need for kindergartners through 12th graders coach pitch, softball, t-ball and baseball. Training and certification are provided by the youth center. Stop by the youth center to pick a volunteer packet. Call the 687-3199 for information and to sign up.

Flashlight Easter egg hunt

Kindergartners through fourth graders can bring flashlights 6:30-9:30 p.m. today for an Easter egg hunt. When all the eggs are found, participants can decorate cookies, lollipop walk, play games, watch a movie and play bingo to win prizes. The cost is \$7 for members and \$8.50 for nonmembers.

Teen Center 687-5819

Go-carts in Kansas City

Teens can take a trip to noon-6 p.m. Saturday to Kansas City, Mo., to ride go-carts with friends. The cost is \$2. Bring money for go-carts and snacks.

Community Center 687-5617

A tisket, a tasket, look I made a basket

Create a simple reed basket to give as a gift or keep for yourself 1-3 p.m. Saturday. Individual instruction will be offered to each weaver. Ages nine and older are welcome. The cost of \$2 includes instruction and supplies.